

## U. S. GUNS ARE IN LINE

Administration Officials Believe Policy at Naco Is Having Good Effect.

## IS DECLARED NOT TO BE AN ACT OF AGGRESSION

Contention Made That This Country Has Right to Protect Its Territory.

State and War Department officials were of the opinion today that the presence of three batteries of American field artillery on the border at Naco, Arizona, with purpose to shoot across the line into Mexico if fire into American territory by the opposing Mexican forces does not cease, is having a salutary effect.

This vigorous policy of the administration to prevent further offenses by the Mexican belligerents endangering the lives of American citizens became known today.

No act of "aggression" is contemplated as was explained in a statement issued by the White House, but officials draw a distinction between aggressive and defensive action.

A Measure of Defense.

For the eleven troops of cavalry and three batteries of field artillery to cross the Mexican line or open fire across the border would constitute an act of aggression, but to remain on American soil and return the fire of the Mexicans, is, in the opinion of high officials, a measure of defense fully justified under the circumstances and not an act of war or invasion.

Although it is not generally known, Brig. Gen. Hugh Scott, now chief of staff of the army, when in command at El Paso, Texas, placed the artillery in position along the Rio Grande and delivered the same warning, which was heeded.

May Hurl Shells.

It was explained at the War Department that the range of the artillery ordered to Naco is from five to six miles. Shells fired from the Mexican town, without injuring the resident, into the lines of the Mexican faction which insisted on firing into American territory. This is the plan of officials should warnings prove futile.

The general expectation, however, is that such a contingency will arise because the Mexican chiefs themselves recognize that foreign complications would be a serious domestic liability to whichever faction was shown to be responsible for them.

The action of the Washington government constitutes a precedent for the future and was taken to mean that firing into American territory from any point along the border would be met by similar steps. Many telegrams had been sent from Gen. Hunt of Arizona and residents of Naco, Arizona, and deaths resulting from stray bullets, and at Tuesday's cabinet meeting, where the telegrams were discussed, it is understood that the determination to put an end to such occurrences was emphatically expressed.

Hill Sends a Protest.

Refuel Zubaran Capmany, Carranza's agent here, issued a statement last night claiming that Carranza's government at Naco with responsibility for the firing across the border, and challenging Gov. Maytorena on behalf of Gen. Hill, the Carranza commander, to withdraw into the interior of Mexico for a pitched battle. He made public the following telegram from Gen. Hill:

"I again call your attention to the convenience of American government against the military authorities at Naco, whose good graces have been won by the Maytorenas.

"Bullets from our enemy are constantly causing damage to the American town, but we are held responsible for it due to the above mentioned discrimination.

"The families of our chiefs and of our soldiers, under the shelter of the neutrality laws, are living in Naco, Ariz. Under these circumstances you can see how reasonable it is for the American government to demand the United States."

Defeat of Villa's Troops Reported.

Mr. Zubaran today issued the following statement, based, it was announced, on unofficial advices from Vera Cruz and from border consuls to the agency here:

"Gen. Lopez de Lara reports that he has defeated Carranza's army and routed them with heavy losses. This was Villa's column advancing on Tampico. Carranza's army, the state of Michoacan, taken yesterday by Gen. Murguia, giving him command of that district.

"Gen. Aviles, Villa commander in Lower California, surrendered yesterday to Carranza. Carranza has placed Villa force of any size in Lower California. Acting Secretary of Foreign Affairs, Pabello, left Vera Cruz yesterday for this country."

Conditions in Mexico.

Dispatches telling of conditions in general in Mexico were summarized by the State Department last night as follows:

"The department is informed that Sunday Gen. Eduardo Arriaga arrived in Piedras Negras and addressed a large audience at the theater on behalf of Carranza. It is reported that the same afternoon Gen. Arriaga left for the United States. Good order is said to prevail throughout the Piedras Negras district.

"A dispatch from Mexico City confirms the report that the permanent commission met December 8 and decided to call a full meeting of the convention for January 1. At that meeting it is stated that acceding Zapatista delegates will attend and participate in the proceedings.

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## HOLIDAY FOR D. C. CLERKS MAY FOLLOW CHRISTMAS

Commissioners Also Consider Plan of Giving Them the Day After New Year.

Although District government employees will not be given full holidays on the two Saturdays immediately preceding Christmas, they may be granted holidays December 26 and January 2, the Saturdays immediately following Christmas and New Year, which will give them a total of four days' leave, not including Sundays, during the Yuletide season.

This plan is under consideration by the Commissioners, but whether or not the board has authority to order it has not been determined. It is practically assured that the Commissioners, in any event, will grant employees the two Christmas and New Year eves, both of which fall on Thursdays, but by electing to work on the two Saturdays following employees will get three successive days' leave both at Christmas and New Year.

The Commissioners have informed the Retail Merchants' Association that they have reached the conclusion that they will not grant the request for a similar request from the association with respect to federal employees.

## GOVERNMENT HOLDS KEY TO POWER SITUATION

E. C. Finney Continues Statement in Support of Bill Before Senate Committee.

With 25,000,000 horsepower undeveloped in the United States, 74 per cent of the sites for the generation of which by waterpower lie on public lands, the federal government holds a key to the power situation it should not relinquish. In the opinion of Edward C. Finney, of the Interior Department, who continued today his statement in support of the waterpower bill before the Senate public lands committee.

Mr. Finney said power site withdrawal by the President up to June 30 last totaled nearly 2,000,000 acres. He cited officials of the National Conservation Association who show that ten groups of power companies now control 45 per cent of the 7,000,000 developed horsepower in the country and added that the same companies in California controlled 57 per cent of the developed power in that state.

## SHERMAN HAS A PLAN TO CUT COST OF LIVING

Would Give Farmer Higher Prices and Larger Profits to Middlemen.

Believing that publicity of accounts by middlemen will lead to co-operation between the public and this class of dealers which ultimately will result in a reduction in the cost of living, John H. Sherman, District superintendent of the Interior Department, today announced that steps will be taken by his department to bring about dissemination of more widespread information as to market conditions.

What the public is entitled to in the way of information of this character was outlined last night by Mr. Sherman in address before the Retail Grocers' Association. Publicity, he urged, will reduce wastes, bring about cheaper prices and at the same time increase the average price to the farmer. In outlining the plan, Mr. Sherman said in part:

"I tell you, because I know, that here in Washington we can substantially reduce the average price to the consumers, substantially increase the average price to the farmers and substantially increase the average net profits of the middlemen at the same time. We can do it by eliminating the wastes. I have helped to do it. I have helped to do it. I can help to do it here, if you will operate, and if Congress will give the money necessary.

"I know where the wastes are. So do you. The public needs to know. It can make it possible for them to know. Let them go ahead. Will you do your share?"

## JUSTUS B. LOYD DEAD; VETERAN OF CIVIL WAR

Well Known Through Feeding the Birds and Squirrels in Lafayette Park.

Justus B. Loyd, seventy-nine years of age, a civil war veteran and employee of the War Department for many years, died yesterday after an illness of several months at his home, 1355 U Street northwest. Death was due to stomach trouble.

Funeral services will be held Saturday afternoon at 2 o'clock at the residence, Rev. Page Milburn officiating. The funeral will be under the auspices of the Washington Commandery, Knights Templar, and interment will be at Rock Creek cemetery.

Mr. Loyd was known to hundreds of Washingtonians as "the white-haired man who feeds the birds and squirrels in Lafayette Square." He was born in New York City July 13, 1835. He served during the entire civil war, and at its close was appointed quartermaster's department, with whom he remained for about fifteen years. He then entered the service of the quartermaster's department where he was employed at the time of his death.

He was a member of Belle Point Lodge, F. A. A. M., in Arkansas, of the Grand Chapter, U. M. W. in the Temple and Washington. His wife, Mrs. Mary E. Loyd, two brothers and a sister survive him.

REITERATES SUFFRAGE VIEW.  
President Tells Caller Question Is One for the States.

President Wilson was asked again today to indorse a constitutional amendment for women suffrage and reiterated that the question was one for the states.

## SENATOR FROM SOUTH CAROLINA FEELS SURE UPPER HOUSE WILL PASS MEASURE.

President's Attitude MYSTIFIES ITS FRIENDS  
Delegation From Ohio River Improvement Association Gets Little Encouragement.

President Wilson's attitude on the Smith-Burnett immigration bill, which passed the House some time ago, and is now before the Senate, continues to mystify many of those interested in this measure and in the general problem of immigration. The President did not include this bill in his program of legislation for this session, and, inferentially, does not regard it as necessary to the country. Senator Smith of South Carolina, chairman of the Senate committee on immigration, the Senate committee on the bill, today has announced his purpose of keeping the bill before the Senate until it is disposed of, and he is confident it will be passed.

Opposition to the literacy test in the immigration bill was expressed to President Wilson by Adolph Lewisohn, a New York banker. Mr. Lewisohn also discussed the question of Jews in Russia in connection with the new commercial treaty the United States is expected to negotiate with Russia in the near future.

President Wilson developed a little more of his views as to river and harbor appropriations when he received a delegation representing the Ohio River Improvement Association, introduced by Representative Allen of Ohio. The President's resolutions adopted at the last meeting of the association urging him to approve the claims of the association that the project of a nine-foot stage from Pittsburgh to Cairo should receive the sanction of Congress. The project would cost nearly \$60,000,000, and would benefit the entire country. There had already been expended, they said, about \$23,000,000.

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## WAR OFFICIALLY REPORTED

French Statement  
PARIS, December 10, 2:30 p.m.—The day of December 9 passed quietly in Belgium as well as in the vicinity of Arras, according to the official statement given out at the war office in Paris this afternoon.

"The day of December 9 passed quietly in Belgium as well as in the vicinity of Arras, according to the official statement given out at the war office in Paris this afternoon.

"In the region of the Aisne and in Champagne there has been no change. The German artillery, over which we gained the advantage during the last few days, yesterday evidenced increased activity, but was again mastered by our heavy artillery. In the environs of Rheims the heavy French pieces compelled the Germans to evacuate several trenches. This evacuation was carried out under the fire of our infantry.

"In the region of Perthes the enemy, by means of two counter attacks, endeavored to recapture the intrenchments which he lost to us December 8. He was repulsed. The ground taken by us has been effectively protected.

"In all the Argonne region we have continued to make progress. We have occupied new trenches, repulsed with complete success six counter attacks and completed and consolidated the ground won from the enemy.

"On the heights of the Meuse there have been artillery engagements in which we maintained a distinct advantage, and this in spite of the very great activity of the batteries of the enemy.

"In the forest of Le Pratre we have taken some new trenches. There is nothing to report on the remainder of the front as far as the Swiss frontier.

"A renewed French attack on Rocroi and Courcelles did not make any progress. The attack broke down under the fire of our artillery, and the enemy suffered heavy loss.

"Yesterday three of the enemy's aviators dropped about ten bombs on a town situated outside the range of operation, the town of Freiburg (Baden). No damage was done. The incident merely shows again that an open town not situated within the range of operations has been attacked with bombs by the enemy.

"To the east of the Masurian lakes (East Prussia), only artillery encounters are taking place.

"In northern Poland our columns advancing on the right bank of the Weichsel (Vistula) took Przemysl by storm. Six hundred prisoners and some machine guns were captured. The attack along the river Weichsel is being continued.

"In southern Poland the Russian attacks were repulsed."

PETROGRAD, December 10.—An official communication issued by the general staff gives the progress of the fighting in the various fields. It says:

"In the region of Mlava, December 8, the conflict assumed a less tenacious character.

"On the left bank of the Vistula, the evening of December 7, the Germans, under cover of darkness, suddenly began an offensive movement simultaneously along the entire front from Ilow (west of Warsaw) to Glogow (southeast of Warsaw). The movement was remarkable for its stubborn nature. The attack was repeated again and again, the Germans advancing in compact columns.

"Aided by searchlights, however, our fire decimated the enemy, who was everywhere repulsed. With the rising of the moon the attacks of the enemy ceased.

"The next day the desperate fighting on the Ilow-Low front was resumed, but without success for the enemy.

"In the Piotrkow region the situation is unchanged.

"The fighting south of Cracow has continued tenaciously, presenting alternately offensive and defensive movements. The Germans twice attempted to break through our fronts, but were repulsed with serious losses.

"On the Black sea, December 8, the whereabouts of the enemy's vessels were not revealed."

Austrian Statement  
BERLIN, December 10.—An official communication issued by the general staff gives the progress of the fighting in the various fields. It says:

"In eastern Galicia the fighting again is becoming very stubborn. In the west our troops attacked and caused the enemy to withdraw from his position between Doboszyce and Wieliczka (southeast of Cracow). It has not yet been possible to ascertain the total number of prisoners taken. So far over 5,000 have been captured, among them being twenty-seven officers.

"In Poland renewed Russian attacks to the south of Piotrkow everywhere have been repulsed by the Austro-Hungarian troops.

"Nothing of note occurred in the Carpathians. The Russian troops again have been compelled to retire behind the mountain ridges."

BRITISH INDIAN TROOPS VICTORS  
OVER THE TURKS IN ASIA MINOR  
LONDON, December 10.—It is officially announced that Subhi Bey, late governor of Basra, Asiatic Turkey, commander of the Turkish forces at Kurna, Tuesday surrendered unconditionally with his troops to the Indian expeditionary force which is operating at the head of the Persian gulf.

Kurna subsequently was occupied by the British, who are now in complete possession of the city. The surrender of the Turkish forces at Kurna, which is situated on the Tigris and Euphrates rivers to the sea, and of the richest part of the fertile delta.

The British, in a dispatch describing the operations of the British forces on the Persian gulf, says: "The reconnaissance of the enemy's position at Kurna was made December 5 by Col. G. S. Frazer, with the 110th Mahatta and 120th Punjabis. The enemy was encountered on the left bank of the Tigris, opposite Kurna. They were completely routed and driven across the river, losing heavily. Two guns and seventy prisoners, including three Turkish officers, were captured.

"Kurna was found to be strongly held by guns and infantry, and when the British, finding no means of crossing the Tigris, withdrew to their original bivouac.

"The following day reinforcements went from Basra under Brig. Gen. Charles Irwin Fry, and captured Masera, cleared the left bank of the Tigris and took three guns and 100 prisoners, including three officers.

"December 8 the British crossed the river and the next day Subhi Bey surrendered. The British casualties during the whole of these operations amounted to 100 killed and 100 wounded, with forty Indians of the rank and file killed and wounded."

## GARRISON'S REPORT SAYS IT WOULD BE UNMISTAK- ABLY FOLLY FOR U. S. TO BE- COME ENTANGLED.

Annual Report Deals With Present Situation  
Recommendations Also Made for Future and Plan Is Offered for Military Reserve.

"Whatever the future may hold," says Secretary Garrison of the War Department, in his annual report, "in the way of international disarmament, followed by mutual disarmament thereof, of agreements to limit armaments and other greatly to be desired measures to lessen or prevent conflict between nation and nation, we all know that at present these conditions are not existing. We can and will eagerly adapt ourselves to each benevolent development along these lines, but we must not allow ourselves to be merely enfeebled ourselves in the meantime, in my view, be unmistakably folly. By neglecting and refusing to provide ourselves with the necessary means of self-protection and self-defense we could not hasten or in any way favorably influence the ultimate results we desire in these respects.

"What, then, does this nation need in the way of military preparedness? Of course, I am not attempting to lay down a counsel of perfection. Such an extensive scheme which is ideal in its completeness. Such a scheme might be continued and studied and adopted after long study. But to wait the result of such a course would be to continue in a situation in which we have so long been. In my view, it is much better to do those things which lie nearest at hand and can be done than to remain as we are, without moving along proper lines until a more comprehensive and perfect scheme can be adopted. I am not suggesting that we should interfere with the carrying out of a most comprehensive and maturely developed plan, but, on the contrary, will fit into it exactly."

Comments Favorably  
ON GARRISON'S REPORT  
Senator Chamberlain Says Suggestions Carried Out Will Better Prepare U. S. Against Invasion.

Senator Chamberlain, chairman of the Senate committee on military affairs, discussing the annual report of the Secretary of War, said today:

"I am very much pleased with the annual report of the Secretary of War. If the suggestions made are carried out by Congress it will place the country in a better state of preparedness against attack or invasion than it has been at any time since the civil war."

"While the Secretary does not advocate a large standing army, he does express a very strong conviction that the enlisted personnel of the army should be increased by at least 25,000 men, and that methods should be adopted for the training of men who would become officers in case of necessity. He insists, too, that some system should be adopted for creating a reserve which might be called upon in case of war to supplement the regular army."

"At the last session of Congress I introduced a resolution to authorize the President to raise the organization of the regular army in time of war or when war is imminent, or on other occasions of grave national emergency requiring the use of the regular army to the prescribed statutory maximum."

"This resolution passed the Senate, and if it passes the House it will be instrumental in putting into effect the training of men who would become officers in case of necessity. It is for an increase in the enlisted personnel of the army."

Favors Adequate Reserve.  
"I would go further than the Secretary in recommending the creation of an adequate reserve. Every educational institution in the country which requires military training should be required to adopt as a part of its curriculum a proper training of the student body in the handling of arms and explosives."

"The importance of the National Guard of the several states as a reserve force in the case of emergency, required to be made ought not to be overlooked. I introduced a bill at the last session of Congress to strengthen the National Guard, and it, too, deserves and ought to receive favorable action by the House of Congress, and this will be a strong factor in the creation of a reserve which might be relied upon in case of emergency."

Present Full War Strength.  
The present full war strength of the United States is summarized by the report as follows:

"The organized militia of the various states totals 8,323 officers and 119,087 men. If all of the national guard could be summoned to the front, the United States would have a total of 120,000 men, of whom 50,000 would be available as a mobile fighting force, and the remainder would be available as a reserve force. The present mobilized strength of 31,000, the Secretary points out, soon will be cut to half by the removal of the garrisons in the Canal Zone, Hawaii and the Philippines.

"In addition to strengthening the regular establishment, the Secretary urges that steps be taken at once to create a more adequate reserve army, which would be drawn from the national guard, and would be trained in the use of arms and explosives, and would be required to adopt as a part of its curriculum a proper training of the student body in the handling of arms and explosives."

"The importance of the National Guard of the several states as a reserve force in the case of